

1 PAUL G. McNAMARA (S.B. #106080)
pmcnamara@omm.com
2 THOMAS M. RIORDAN (S.B. #176364)
triordan@omm.com
3 DAVID I. HURWITZ (S.B. #174632)
dhurwitz@omm.com
4 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP
400 South Hope Street
5 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2899
Telephone: (213) 430-6000
6 Facsimile: (213) 430-6407

7 Attorneys for Defendants
COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
8 CORPORATION; BANK OF AMERICA
CORPORATION; ANGELO MOZILO;
9 DAVID SAMBOL; STANFORD KURLAND;
and CARLOS GARCIA

10 [Additional Counsel Listed in Signature Block]
11

12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
13 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
14

15 PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA,

16 Plaintiff,

17 v.

18 COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
19 CORPORATION, a Delaware
corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, a
20 Delaware corporation; ANGELO
MOZILO, an individual; DAVID
21 SAMBOL, an individual; STANFORD
KURLAND, an individual; CARLOS
22 GARCIA, an individual; DOES 1-200,
and ROES 1-500, inclusive,

23 Defendants.
24
25
26
27
28

Case No. 08-CV-1348-JLS-BLM

**AMENDED NOTICE OF REMOVAL
OF ACTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331,
1334, 1441(b), 1446, & 1452 (FEDERAL-
QUESTION, FEDERAL OFFICER,
AND BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION)**

(San Diego County Superior Court
Case No. 37-2008-00088176-CU-BT-CTL)

1 TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

2 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that defendants Countrywide Financial Corporation
3 (“CFC”), Bank of America Corporation (“BAC”),¹ Angelo Mozilo, David Sambol,
4 Stanford Kurland, and Carlos Garcia (collectively, “Defendants”) hereby submit this
5 amended removal notice, which was originally removed from state court to this Court on
6 July 25, 2008. This amended removal notice is based on federal-question jurisdiction,
7 federal officer removal, and bankruptcy jurisdiction.

8 BACKGROUND

9 1. On July 23, 2008, Michael J. Aguirre, acting in his official capacity as City
10 Attorney for the City of San Diego, commenced an action in the name of the People of the
11 State of California (“Plaintiff”) in the Superior Court of the State of California for the
12 County of San Diego entitled *People of the State of California v. Countrywide Financial*
13 *Corp., et al.*, Case No. 37-2008-00088176-CU-BT-CTL. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a),
14 a copy of the complaint and all pleadings and papers filed in this action is attached as
15 Exhibit “A”.

16 2. All Defendants consent to and join in this notice of removal. Defendants
17 executed a waiver of service of summons on August 8, 2008. This amended notice of
18 removal is filed within thirty days after the receipt by the Defendants, through service or
19 otherwise, of a copy of the complaint.

20 3. Defendants have timely filed this notice of removal pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
21 § 1446(b).

22 4. Venue for removal is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a)
23 because the United States District Court for the Southern District of California embraces
24 the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Diego, the forum in
25 which the removed action was pending.

26
27 ¹ Although the case caption names “BANK OF AMERICA, a Delaware corporation” as a
28 defendant, the body of the complaint indicates Plaintiff’s intention to sue Bank of America
Corporation. (See Complaint ¶ 8.)

1 5. Defendants filed a copy of the original Notice of Removal in Civil Action
2 No. 37-2008-00088176-CU-BT-CTL in the Superior Court of the State of California for
3 the County of San Diego.

4 BASES FOR REMOVAL JURISDICTION

5 6. This action is a civil action over which this Court has original jurisdiction
6 under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and is one that may be removed to this Court by Defendants
7 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b) in that Plaintiff asserts claims that will necessitate the
8 adjudication of substantial, disputed questions of federal law.

9 7. The claims asserted in this action also are removable pursuant to 28
10 U.S.C. § 1442. Although Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is not named as a
11 Defendant, the complaint targets its servicing of federally-insured and guaranteed
12 mortgage loans, and attempts to hold CFC—Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP's
13 former ultimate parent company—responsible for those activities. Although
14 Defendants do not admit, and indeed expressly deny, that CFC is properly held
15 responsible for the alleged conduct of a separate entity such as Countrywide Home
16 Loans Servicing LP, by this lawsuit, Plaintiff attempts to hold CFC responsible for
17 conduct by Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP. Countrywide Home Loans
18 Servicing LP is acting under one or more federal officers (including, for example, the
19 Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of
20 the Department of Veterans Affairs) in connection with the conduct alleged in the
21 complaint. In addition, there is a causal nexus between the Plaintiff's claims and the
22 alleged conduct Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP for which Plaintiff attempts
23 to hold CFC responsible, and Defendants raise colorable federal defenses. *See*
24 *Jefferson County v. Acker*, 527 U.S. 423, 431 (1999).

25 8. In the alternative, and only in the event that the Court finds that it does not
26 have jurisdiction based on at least one of the other two grounds alleged in this notice
27 (substantial federal question and federal officer removal), the claims asserted against the
28 Defendants in this action are removable based on federal bankruptcy jurisdiction, pursuant

1 to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157, 1331, 1334, 1367, 1441, and 1452, and Rule 9027 of the Federal
2 Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, because this is a civil action arising under the Bankruptcy
3 Code or arising in one or more cases under the Bankruptcy Code. *See* 28 U.S.C. §
4 1334(b). Pursuant to Rule 9027(a)(1) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure,
5 Defendants hereby state that upon removal of the causes of action, the proceeding is core.

6 FEDERAL-QUESTION JURISDICTION

7 9. Plaintiff's complaint asserts claims that necessitate resolution of substantial,
8 disputed questions of federal law, including but not limited to the Truth-in-Lending Act
9 ("TILA"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 1601 *et seq.*, and the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act
10 ("RESPA"), 12 U.S.C. §§ 2601 *et seq.* A determination of whether Plaintiff may recover
11 for the conduct described in its complaint will necessarily turn on substantial, disputed
12 questions of federal law. Hence, there is federal-question jurisdiction over Plaintiff's
13 claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331.

14 10. Federal-question jurisdiction is available in actions involving state-law
15 claims where those claims necessarily involve the resolution of underlying disputed
16 questions of federal law. *See, e.g., Grable & Sons Metal Prods., Inc. v. Darue Eng'g &*
17 *Mfg.*, 545 U.S. 308, 315-16 (2005) (affirming federal-question jurisdiction over state
18 quiet-title action based on need to resolve predicate issue under federal Internal Revenue
19 Code); *California ex rel. Lockyer v. Dynegy, Inc.*, 375 F.3d 831, 841 (9th Cir. 2004)
20 (federal question removal jurisdiction proper where state lawsuit turns upon defendant's
21 compliance with a federal regulation).

22 11. Plaintiff's complaint asserts a purportedly state-law claim that requires
23 resolution of substantial, disputed questions of federal law. Among other allegations,
24 Plaintiff asserts that Defendants "fail[ed] to provide clear and balanced information"
25 concerning the loans at issue. (Complaint ¶ 68(d).) Although pled as a state-law claim,
26 California statutes defining the standards relevant to Plaintiff's Unfair Competition claim
27 incorporate federal-law standards. In order to prove a violation of state law in an area
28 governed by TILA or RESPA, a plaintiff is required to plead and prove conduct that

1 established that defendants violated federal law. *See, e.g.*, Cal. Civ. Code § 2958 (“A
2 disclosure is not required under this article [governing purchase money liens on residential
3 property], to a purchaser when that purchaser is entitled to receive, a disclosure pursuant
4 to the Federal Truth-In-Lending Act . . . [or] the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act . .
5 . . .”); Cal. Fin. Code § 50308 (“If any person engaged in the business regulated by this
6 division [of the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act] refers in any advertising to
7 rates of interest, charges, or costs of loans, the commissioner shall require that they are
8 stated fully and clearly in the manner that he or she deems necessary to give adequate
9 information to prospective borrowers. . . . Compliance with the requirements of the
10 federal Truth in Lending Act and Regulation Z promulgated thereunder is presumed to
11 satisfy the requirements of this section.”); Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 10240.

12 12. Here, to prove an entitlement to relief on the claim that Defendants
13 inadequately disclosed the terms of the loans alleged in the complaint, Plaintiff will have
14 to prove that Defendants violated TILA, a federal statute. “The declared purpose of
15 [TILA] is ‘to assure a meaningful disclosure of credit terms so that the consumer will be
16 able to compare more readily the various credit terms available to him and avoid the
17 uninformed use of credit, and to protect the consumer against inaccurate and unfair credit
18 billing and credit card practices.’” *Beach v. Ocwen Fed. Bank*, 523 U.S. 410, 412 (1998)
19 (quoting 15 U.S.C. § 1601(a)). “Accordingly, the Act requires creditors to provide
20 borrowers with clear and accurate disclosures of terms dealing with things like finance
21 charges, annual percentage rates of interest, and the borrower’s rights.” *Id.* (citing
22 15 U.S.C. §§ 1631, 1632, 1635, 1638). Among the matters governed by TILA that are of
23 particular relevance to this case are the disclosure of the terms under which interest rates
24 adjust, the possibility of negative amortization, and credit advertising generally.

25 13. Plaintiff also alleges that the corporate Defendants “created and adopted an
26 incentive compensation system that induced brokers and sales representatives to engage in
27 predatory lending practices.” (Complaint ¶ 56.) Specifically, Plaintiff alleges that “the
28 Company’s brokers and sales representatives earned a greater commission by placing a

1 borrower in a sub-prime loan. Brokers received commissions of 0.50% of the loan's value
2 versus 0.20% on loans one step up the quality ladder, known as Alternate-A loans." (*Id.*)
3 Thus, Plaintiff alleges that the compensation paid to brokers was not reasonably related to
4 the value of the brokerage services that were actually performed.

5 14. These allegations require the application of RESPA, which provides, in
6 pertinent part, that "[n]o person shall give and no person shall accept any portion, split, or
7 percentage of any charge made or received for the rendering of a real estate settlement
8 service in connection with a transaction involving a federally related mortgage loan *other*
9 *than for services actually performed.*" 12 U.S.C. § 2607(b) (emphasis added); *see also* 12
10 U.S.C. § 2607(a) ("No person shall give and no person shall accept any fee, kickback, or
11 thing of value pursuant to any agreement or understanding, oral or otherwise, that
12 business incident to or part of a real estate settlement service involving a federally related
13 mortgage loan shall be referred to any person."). The federal agency with enforcement
14 authority under RESPA, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, has issued
15 detailed guidance concerning the propriety of yield spread premiums and the Ninth Circuit
16 has approved and applied that guidance as definitive. *See Schuetz v. Banc One Mortgage*
17 *Corp.*, 292 F.3d 1004, 1014 (9th Cir. 2002) (upholding "Real Estate Settlement
18 Procedures Act (RESPA) Statement of Policy 1999-1 Regarding Lender Payments to
19 Mortgage Brokers," 64 Fed. Reg. 10080, 10085 (March 1, 1999) and "Real Estate
20 Settlement Procedures Act Statement of Policy 2001-1: Clarification of Statement of
21 Policy 1999-1 Regarding Lender Payments to Mortgage Brokers, and Guidance
22 Concerning Unearned Fees Under Section 8(b)," 66 Fed. Reg. 53052 (October 18, 2001)).

23 15. Accordingly, when conduct is governed by TILA or RESPA, a plaintiff's
24 right to relief under state law necessarily depends on the application or construction of
25 federal law. Such state claims, therefore, arise under federal law. *Grable*, 545 U.S. at
26 315.

27 16. Indeed, other courts have found that when the conduct at issue is governed
28 by TILA or RESPA, a plaintiff's right to relief under a state unfair competition law

1 necessarily depends on the application or construction of federal law. *Jackson v. South*
2 *Holland Dodge, Inc.*, 755 N.E. 2d 462, 470 (Ill. 2001) (affirming dismissal of Illinois
3 Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act (“ICFA”) complaint because
4 defendant complied with TILA); *Lanier v. Assocs. Fin., Inc.*, 499 N.E. 2d 440, 445 (Ill.
5 1986) (affirmed dismissal of plaintiff’s ICFA claim because the complaint failed to state a
6 claim under TILA); *Johnson v. Matrix Fin. Servs. Corp.*, 820 N.E. 2d 1094, 1103-04 (Ill.
7 App. Ct. 2004) (affirming dismissal of ICFA claim because complaint failed to allege a
8 violation of RESPA); *Fiore v. First Amer. Title Ins. Co.*, No. 05-cv-474, 2006 U.S. Dist.
9 LEXIS 60952, at *9 (S.D. Ill. Aug. 28, 2006) (dismissing ICFA claim because the
10 complaint did not allege facts sufficient to support a claim under RESPA).

11 17. Because Plaintiff’s state-law claims necessarily involve the resolution of
12 underlying substantial, disputed questions of federal law, federal-question jurisdiction is
13 appropriate.

14 18. There is also a significant federal interest in the adjudication of these claims
15 in a federal rather than state forum. *Grable*, 545 U.S. at 314. Furthermore, the exercise of
16 federal-question jurisdiction here will not “disturb any congressionally approved balance
17 of federal and state judicial responsibilities.” To the contrary, TILA and RESPA each
18 authorize a private right of action in certain circumstances. *See, e.g.*, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1635,
19 1640 (TILA); 12 U.S.C. §§ 2607, 2614 (RESPA). This demonstrates that there is a
20 significant federal interest in adjudicating this type of dispute in federal court. *Grable*,
21 545 U.S. at 317-18 (existence of a federal private right of action weighs in favor of federal
22 question jurisdiction, while absence weighs against) (citing *Merrell Dow Pharms., Inc. v.*
23 *Thompson*, 478 U.S. 804 (1986)). Second, disputes under Section 17200 of the California
24 Business & Professions Code are routinely litigated in federal court. Finally, several
25 putative consumer class actions recently have been filed and are pending in federal court
26 against Defendants alleging claims under Section 17200 for violating disclosure laws and
27 requirements based on conduct that is similar or identical to that alleged in the complaint.
28 *See, e.g., Hursh v. Countrywide Financial Corporation*, Case No. 08 CV 1313-J-NLS

(S.D. Cal.). Judicial economy weighs in favor of this Court's exercising federal-question jurisdiction here as *Hursh* involves the same core factual allegations and the same causes of action as Plaintiff's complaint.²

19. Thus, there is a significant interest in having these federal issues adjudicated in a federal forum, and removal of this action will not disrupt the existing balance between federal and state judicial responsibilities over similar disputes.

FEDERAL OFFICER REMOVAL

20. The claims asserted against in this action are removable pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1442 because Plaintiff attempts to hold CFC responsible for Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP's alleged conduct, Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is a person acting under one or more federal officers, there is a causal nexus between the Plaintiff's claims and the alleged conduct of Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP for which Plaintiff attempts to hold CFC responsible, and Defendants raise colorable federal defenses. *See Jefferson County v. Acker*, 527 U.S. 423, 431 (1999).

21. **First**, Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is a person acting under one or more federal officers, including but not limited to the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") and the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs ("VA"), for purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1442(a)(1), in connection with the servicing of mortgage loans insured by the federal government.

22. Through the Federal Housing Administration ("FHA") program, HUD guarantees and insures the performance of thousands of loans that Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP services. HUD regulations provide that in order to be approved to participate in insurance programs authorized under the National Housing Act, including the FHA program, and to maintain approval, "[a] lender shall service or arrange for servicing of the loan in accordance with the requirements of part 201 of this chapter. A

² At the time that the original removal notice in this case was filed, *Hursh* was designated as a related case pursuant to Local Rule 40.1(e) because it arises from the same transactions, happenings, and events and advances factual and legal claims that are substantially similar to those asserted in Plaintiff's complaint.

1 mortgagee shall service or arrange for servicing of the mortgage in accordance with the
2 servicing responsibilities contained in subpart C of part 203 and in part 207 of this
3 chapter, with all other applicable regulations contained in this title, and with such
4 additional conditions and requirements as the Secretary may impose.” 24 C.F.R. §
5 202.5(e).

6 23. The regulations include detailed loss mitigation procedures that emphasize,
7 among other things, mortgagees’ need to minimize the risk of financial loss to HUD in
8 connection with the mortgagees’ servicing of FHA-insured loans: “[m]ortgagees must
9 consider the comparative effects of their elective servicing actions, and ***must take those***
10 ***appropriate actions which can reasonably be expected to generate the smallest financial***
11 ***loss to the Department.*** Such actions include, but are not limited to, deeds in lieu of
12 foreclosure under § 203.357, pre-foreclosure sales under § 203.370, partial claims under §
13 203.414, assumptions under § 203.512, special forbearance under §§ 203.471 and
14 203.614, and recasting of mortgages under § 203.616.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.501 (emphasis
15 added).

16 24. For example, these regulations permit a mortgagee to modify a mortgage for
17 the purposes of changing the amortization provisions, but only within specified
18 constraints, and with notice to HUD: “The mortgagee may modify a mortgage for the
19 purpose of changing the amortization provisions by recasting the total unpaid amount due
20 for a term not exceeding 360 months. The mortgagee must notify HUD of such
21 modification in a format prescribed by HUD within 30 days of the execution of the
22 modification agreement.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.616.

23 25. As another example, mortgagees’ power to grant special forbearance relief
24 for FHA-insured mortgage loans, and the nature of the relief, is limited to circumstances
25 defined by HUD: “If the mortgagee finds that a default is due to circumstances beyond
26 the mortgagor’s control, as defined by HUD, the mortgagee may grant special forbearance
27 relief to the mortgagor in accordance with the conditions prescribed by HUD.” 24 C.F.R.
28 § 203.614.

1 26. HUD has issued handbooks providing further, detailed requirements relating
2 to mortgage modifications and forbearance for FHA-insured loans, such as HUD
3 Handbook 4330.1, REV-5 (Administration of Insured Home Mortgages). (*See*
4 <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/hudclips/handbooks/hsg/4330.1/index.cfm>.) The
5 Handbook is frequently supplemented with bulletins and explanatory letters, including
6 Mortgagee Letters (collectively, the “HUD Handbook”).

7 27. Among other provisions, the HUD Handbook dictates procedures the
8 servicer “must” provide for the servicing of defaulted loans, including requirements
9 concerning delinquency counseling, foreclosure avoidance, and pre-foreclosure review.
10 (*See generally* HUD Handbook, Chapter 1-9, 7-7, 7-11, and 7-12.)

11 28. The HUD Handbook has detailed requirements concerning workouts and
12 forbearances. (*See generally* HUD Handbook, Chapter 8.) The HUD Handbook
13 prescribes the available forbearance agreements (informal, formal, and special), and
14 defines those agreements and procedures for which specific HUD approval is—or is not—
15 required. (*See* HUD Handbook, Sections 8-3 and 8-4.) HUD also has delegated certain
16 authority to servicers, such as Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP, for the recasting
17 and modification of loans in some circumstances. (*See* HUD Handbook, Chapter 3,
18 Chapter 8-6.)

19 29. The performance of FHA loans is guaranteed by the Government National
20 Mortgage Association (commonly referred to as Ginnie Mae or GNMA), which is part of
21 HUD. Ginnie Mae also imposes requirements on the servicing of loans that are in default
22 and/or in foreclosure. (Ginnie Mae Handbook, Chapter 18.) Those requirements are
23 dictated to Countrywide as issuer and servicer.

24 30. A mortgagee’s failure to employ FHA-directed and GNMA-directed
25 servicing requirements and loss-mitigation measures, as set forth in regulations,
26 handbooks, and other directives, can result in a mortgagee losing its power to service
27 FHA-insured loans or being subject to other restrictions or penalties, or may result in a
28 loss or curtailment of default insurance coverage with respect to particular loans.

31. In addition to the above-referenced rules relating to the ability to modify mortgage loans and offer forbearance agreements, there are detailed regulations relating to other servicing obligations for FHA-insured and GNMA-guaranteed loans. *See* 24 C.F.R. §§ 203.500-203.681; *see also* HUD Handbook, Chapters 1, 2, 4, 9. The regulations provide that “[t]he servicer must fully discharge the servicing responsibilities of mortgagees as outlined in this part. The mortgagee shall remain fully responsible to the Secretary [of HUD] for proper servicing, and the actions of its servicer shall be considered the actions of the mortgagee. The servicer also shall be fully responsible to the Secretary for its actions as a servicer.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.502(a). The regulations and the Handbooks impose detailed requirements on mortgagees and their servicers in connection with servicing such loans. For example:

- **Providing loan information to mortgagors.** These regulations require that: “[t]he mortgagee must establish written procedures and controls to assure prompt responses to inquiries;” “[a]ll mortgagors must be informed of the system available for obtaining answers to loan inquiries;” and “[a]t the mortgagor’s request, the mortgagee shall furnish a statement of the escrow account sufficient to enable the mortgagor to reconcile the account.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.508.
- **Escrow accounts.** These regulations require that: “[m]ortgagees must establish controls to insure that bills payable from the escrow fund or the information needed to pay such bills is obtained on a timely basis;” “[p]enalties for late payments for items payable from the escrow account must not be charged to the mortgagor unless it can be shown that the penalty was the direct result of the mortgagor’s error or omission;” that “[t]he mortgagee shall not institute foreclosure when the only default of the mortgagor occupant is a present inability to pay a substantial escrow shortage, resulting from an adjustment pursuant to this section, in a lump sum.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.550.
- **Fees and charges after endorsement.** These regulations provide detailed requirements as to fees and charges, and provide that the “mortgagee may collect

reasonable and customary fees and charges from the mortgagor after insurance endorsement *only* as provided” in the regulations. 24 C.F.R. § 203.552 (emphasis added). The regulated fees and charges include late charges (as set forth in other regulations), charges for processing uncollectible checks, and attorney’s and trustee’s fees and expenses in connection with foreclosure. *Id.* The regulations also provide that the “reasonable and customary charges” shall *not* include such charges as “[c]harges for servicing activities of the mortgagee or servicer.” *Id.* In addition, the mortgages and deeds of trust executed by mortgagors whose loans are insured by HUD often provide that fees and charges are permitted as set forth by HUD.

- **Contact with the mortgagor.** The regulations require the mortgagee to “have a face-to-face interview with the mortgagor, or make reasonable efforts to arrange such a meeting, before three full monthly installments due on a mortgage are unpaid.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.604(b).
- **Loss mitigation performance.** The regulations require that “[b]efore four full monthly installments due on the mortgage have become unpaid, the mortgagee shall evaluate on a monthly basis all the loss mitigation techniques provided at § 203.501 to determine which is appropriate. Based on such evaluations, the mortgagee shall take appropriate loss mitigation action.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.605(a).
- **Pre-foreclosure review.** The regulations require that “[b]efore initiating foreclosure, the mortgagee must ensure that all servicing requirements of this subpart have been met.” 24 C.F.R. § 203.606(a).

32. The HUD requirements cited above are applicable to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP’s servicing of FHA-insured and GNMA-guaranteed loans, as provided therein. Under these requirements, Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is expressly charged with specific servicing obligations for such loans, and is subject to specific constraints directed by the federal government with regard to loan modifications and forbearance. In addition, Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP has been

1 specifically approved by HUD as a “non-supervised mortgagee,” and it and its affiliates
2 are approved by GNMA as Issuers, which entitles Countrywide Home Loans Servicing
3 LP to, among other things, service FHA-insured and GNMA-guaranteed loans.

4 33. As part of the FHA program, HUD reviews the performance of Countrywide
5 Home Loans Servicing LP and its compliance with the requirements, and imposes
6 penalties with respect to particular loans or that affect the company’s overall status when
7 loans are not serviced pursuant to the applicable regulations, Handbooks, and other
8 requirements.

9 34. As a result of the above-referenced circumstances, the Secretary of HUD
10 has delegated legal authority to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP in connection
11 with the servicing of FHA-insured and GNMA-guaranteed mortgage loans and is
12 directing the conduct and acts of Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP, such that
13 Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is acting under the Secretary of HUD for
14 purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1442(a)(1). Confirming that Countrywide Home Loans Servicing
15 LP is acting under a federal officer, the servicing of federally-insured and guaranteed
16 mortgage loans is something that, absent these regulations and approvals, a federal officer
17 or agency (such as HUD or its Secretary) would have to do itself. Hence, Countrywide
18 Home Loans Servicing LP is directly assisting the federal government in providing a
19 service that it would otherwise provide on its own. *See, e.g., Watson v. Philip Morris*
20 *Cos.*, 127 S. Ct. 2301, 2308 (2007) (observing that federal officer removal would be
21 appropriate where the removing party is “helping the Government to produce an item that
22 it needs” or “performed a job that ... the Government itself would [otherwise] have had to
23 perform.”).

24 35. Similarly, Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP services loans
25 guaranteed by the VA pursuant to instructions and directions provided by the VA by
26 regulation and handbook. 38 C.F.R. Part 36.4300 et seq.; VA Handbook H26-94-1.
27 These requirements include detailed direction with respect to default servicing,
28 alternatives to foreclosures (such as forbearances and modifications), and foreclosure. *Id.*

1 HUD reviews servicing performance with respect to VA loans as it does with FHA loans.
 2 VA-guaranteed loans are also guaranteed by GNMA, and subject to the requirements sets
 3 forth above with respect to FHA loans. As such, the Secretary of the VA has delegated
 4 legal authority to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP in connection with the servicing
 5 of VA-guaranteed mortgage loans and is directing the conduct and acts of Countrywide
 6 Home Loans Servicing LP, such that Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is acting
 7 under the Secretary of the VA for purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1442(a)(1). Confirming that
 8 Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is acting under a federal officer, the servicing of
 9 federally-insured mortgage loans is something that, absent these regulations and
 10 approvals, a federal agency or officer (such as the VA or its Secretary) would have to do
 11 itself. Hence, Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP is directly assisting the federal
 12 government in providing a service that it would otherwise provide on its own. *See, e.g.,*
 13 *Watson*, 127 S. Ct. at 2308.

14 36. ***Second***, there is a causal nexus between the claims asserted against CFC
 15 and the conduct performed by Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP in connection with
 16 its servicing of mortgage loans insured by the federal government, including FHA-insured
 17 and guaranteed loans and VA-guaranteed loans. Although Defendants do not admit, and
 18 indeed expressly deny, that CFC is properly held responsible for the alleged conduct of a
 19 separate entity such as Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP, by this lawsuit, Plaintiff
 20 attempts to hold CFC responsible for conduct by Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP.
 21 For example, Plaintiff alleges that “CFC carried out the unlawful, fraudulent, or unfair
 22 predatory lending practices through several divisions and subsidiaries....” (Complaint ¶
 23 7.)

24 37. The Complaint’s allegations target the duties delegated by the Secretaries of
 25 HUD and the VA to Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP pursuant to the regulations
 26 and approvals referenced above. For example, the Complaint alleges that:

- 27 • “Countrywide typically performed the ongoing servicing functions related to the
 28 residential mortgage loans it produced.” (Complaint ¶ 31.)

- 1 • “Defendants knew, or should have known, that Countrywide was required to
- 2 operate within specific statutory and regulatory parameters limiting the interest rate
- 3 and other fees that could lawfully be charged to borrowers as well as the types of
- 4 selling practices that the Company could utilize.” (Complaint ¶ 54.)
- 5 • “Countrywide failed to provide clear and balanced information about the risks and
- 6 features of these loans to the detriment of borrowers.” (Complaint ¶ 61.)

7 38. The above-referenced allegations directly challenge Countrywide Home
 8 Loans Servicing LP’s performance of its appointed duties in servicing federally-insured
 9 mortgage loans, including under the regulations, handbooks, and approvals of HUD, the
 10 VA, and GNMA cited above.

11 39. Accordingly, there is a causal nexus between Plaintiff’s claims and
 12 Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP’s conduct in carrying out its duties in connection
 13 with servicing mortgage loans insured by the federal government. *See, e.g., Isaacson v.*
 14 *Dow Chemical Co.*, 517 F.3d 129, 137-38 (2d Cir. 2008) (“[t]o show causation,
 15 Defendants must only establish that the act that is the subject of Plaintiffs’ attack . . .
 16 occurred *while* Defendants were performing their official duties.”) (emphasis in original).

17 40. **Finally**, federal officer removal is appropriate because Defendants raise
 18 colorable federal defenses. Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP acted in compliance
 19 with federal law—including the HUD, VA, and GNMA regulations and requirements and
 20 the specific HUD, VA, and GNMA approvals of its servicing responsibilities—in its
 21 servicing of federally-insured mortgage loans. Hence, Defendants raise colorable federal
 22 defenses that arise out of Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP’s duties pursuant to its
 23 relationship with the government in servicing federally-insured mortgage loans. *See, e.g.,*
 24 *Isaacson*, 517 F.3d at 139 (compliance with federal law can provide a colorable federal
 25 defense for purposes of federal officer removal); *Magnin v. Teledyne Continental Motors*,
 26 91 F.3d 1424, 1428 (11th Cir. 1996) (colorable federal defense where “[a]t least part of
 27 Smith’s defense is that he acted within the scope of his federal duties, that what he did was
 28 required of him by federal law, and that he did all federal law required.”).

1 during the bankruptcy case. 11 U.S.C. § 554(d). To the extent a debtor in a pending or
2 previous bankruptcy case has raised claims similar to those raised in this case, the claims
3 are part of the estate or are already at issue in bankruptcy cases. This Court has original
4 and exclusive jurisdiction over claims and over property of the various bankruptcy cases
5 filed in this District, including the claims asserted in the instant (state court) case filed by
6 the San Diego City Attorney.

7 45. Upon removal, this proceeding is a core matter in numerous bankruptcy
8 cases because, for example, it is a proceeding that affects the liquidation of assets of the
9 estate. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(O).

10 46. If the Court exercises jurisdiction based on bankruptcy removal, and to the
11 extent a separate jurisdictional basis is required as to claims brought for the benefit of
12 persons other than debtors, this Court has supplemental jurisdiction over those claims
13 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 because they are so related to the claims brought on behalf
14 of debtors that they form part of the same case or controversy under Article III of the
15 United States Constitution.

16 47. Although filed by the San Diego City Attorney, this action is not a
17 regulatory or police-power action under 28 U.S.C. § 1452(a) because it seeks to protect a
18 pecuniary interest in property of the debtors or their bankruptcy estates. Thus, this action
19 is not properly understood as an exercise of police or regulatory power. *See Fed. Trade*
20 *Comm'n v. First Alliance Mortg. Co. (In re First Alliance Mortg. Co.)*, 264 B.R. 634, 646
21 (C.D. Cal. 2001) (citing legislative history of the police power removal exception stating
22 that it “is intended to be given a narrow construction in order to permit governmental units
23 to pursue actions to protect public health and safety and not to apply to actions by a
24 governmental unit to protect a pecuniary interest in property of the debtor, or property of
25 the estate.”). Accordingly, bankruptcy removal is proper here.

1 Dated: August 14, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

2
3
4 By: /s/ Paul G. McNamara
Paul G. McNamara

5 PAUL G. McNAMARA (S.B. #106080)
pmcnamara@omm.com
6 THOMAS M. RIORDAN (S.B. #176364)
triordan@omm.com
7 DAVID I. HURWITZ (S.B. #174632)
dhurwitz@omm.com
8 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP
400 South Hope Street
9 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2899
Telephone: (213) 430-6000
10 Facsimile: (213) 430-6407

11 Attorneys for Defendants
12 COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
CORPORATION; BANK OF AMERICA
13 CORPORATION; ANGELO MOZILO;
DAVID SAMBOL; STANFORD
14 KURLAND; and CARLOS GARCIA

15 BROOKS R. BROWN (S.B. #250724)
bbrown@goodwinprocter.com
16 GOODWIN PROCTER LLP
10250 Constellation Blvd., 21st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90067
17 Telephone: (310) 788-5100
18 Facsimile: (310) 286-0992

19 THOMAS M. HEFFERON
(*pro hac vice to be filed*)
thefferon@goodwinprocter.com
20 GOODWIN PROCTER LLP
901 New York Avenue, NW
21 Washington, DC 20001
Telephone: (202) 346-4000
22 Facsimile: (202) 346-4444

23 Attorneys for Defendants
24 COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
CORPORATION and BANK OF
25 AMERICA CORPORATION

26 LA2:867658.1

Exhibit A

SUMMONS

(CITACION JUDICIAL)

FOR COURT USE ONLY
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:

(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, a Delaware corporation; ANGELO MOZILO, an individual; DAVID SAMBOL, an individual; STANFORD KURLAND, an individual; CARLOS GARCIA, an individual; DOES 1-200, and ROES 1-500, inclusive,

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.

The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

CASE NUMBER:
(Número del Caso):
37-2008-00088176-CU-BT-CTL

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
Hall of Justice, 330 W. Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101-3827

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney State Bar No. 60402
CHRISTOPHER S. MORRIS, Assistant City Attorney
MARGARET G. JACOBO, Assistant City Attorney
DIANE SILVA-MARTINEZ, Head Deputy City Attorney
DAVID J. KARLIN, Head Deputy City Attorney
1200 Third Ave., Ste. 700, San Diego, CA 92101

(619) 533-5500 Fax: (619) 533-5505

DATE: July 23, 2008

(Fecha)

JUL 23 2008

Clerk, by D. Smith, Deputy
(Secretario) (Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

1. ☐ as an individual defendant.
2. ☐ as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
3. ☐ on behalf of (specify):
under: ☐ CCP 416.10 (corporation) ☐ CCP 416.60 (minor)
☐ CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) ☐ CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
☐ CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) ☐ CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
☐ other (specify):
4. ☐ by personal delivery on (date):

(SEAL)



FOR COURT USE ONLY

Items 1–6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2).

1. Check one box below for the case type that best describes this case:

Auto Tort	Contract	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400–3.403)
<input type="checkbox"/> Auto (22)	<input type="checkbox"/> Breach of contract/warranty (06)	<input type="checkbox"/> Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)
<input type="checkbox"/> Uninsured motorist (46)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rule 3.740 collections (09)	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction defect (10)
Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort	<input type="checkbox"/> Other collections (09)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mass tort (40)
<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos (04)	<input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage (18)	<input type="checkbox"/> Securities litigation (28)
<input type="checkbox"/> Product liability (24)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other contract (37)	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental/Toxic tort (30)
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical malpractice (45)	Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other PI/PD/WD (23)	<input type="checkbox"/> Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14)	Enforcement of Judgment
Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort	<input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful eviction (33)	<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of judgment (20)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business tort/unfair business practice (07)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other real property (26)	Miscellaneous Civil Complaint
<input type="checkbox"/> Civil rights (08)	Unlawful Detainer	<input type="checkbox"/> RICO (27)
<input type="checkbox"/> Defamation (13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial (31)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other complaint (<i>not specified above</i>) (42)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fraud (16)	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential (32)	Miscellaneous Civil Petition
<input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual property (19)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drugs (38)	<input type="checkbox"/> Partnership and corporate governance (21)
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional negligence (25)	Judicial Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Other petition (<i>not specified above</i>) (43)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	<input type="checkbox"/> Asset forfeiture (05)	
Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition re: arbitration award (11)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful termination (36)	<input type="checkbox"/> Writ of mandate (02)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other employment (15)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other judicial review (39)	

2. This case ☒ is ☐ is not complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management:
- a. ☐ Large number of separately represented parties d. ☐ Large number of witnesses
- b. ☒ Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel issues that will be time-consuming to resolve e. ☒ Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court
- c. ☐ Substantial amount of documentary evidence f. ☐ Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision
3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a. ☒ monetary b. ☒ nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. ☐ punitive
4. Number of causes of action (specify): one
5. This case ☐ is ☒ is not a class action suit.
6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (You may use form CM-015.)

Date: July 23, 2008

David J. Karlin, Head Deputy City Attorney

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

► Doegio/K
(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY)

(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

NOTICE

- Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions.
- File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.
- If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all other parties to the action or proceeding.
- Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.

Page 1 of 2

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO	
STREET ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway	
MAILING ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway	
CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101	
BRANCH NAME: Central	
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (619) 450-7066	
PLAINTIFF(S) / PETITIONER(S): People of the State of California	
DEFENDANT(S) / RESPONDENT(S): Countrywide Financial Corporation et.al.	
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA VS. COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL CORPORATION	
NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT	CASE NUMBER: 37-2008-00088176-CU-BT-CTL

Judge: Charles R. Hayes

Department: C-66

COMPLAINT/PETITION FILED: 07/23/2008

CASES ASSIGNED TO THE PROBATE DIVISION ARE NOT REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE CIVIL REQUIREMENTS LISTED BELOW

IT IS THE DUTY OF EACH PLAINTIFF (AND CROSS-COMPLAINANT) TO SERVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE WITH THE COMPLAINT (AND CROSS-COMPLAINT).

ALL COUNSEL WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE FAMILIAR WITH SUPERIOR COURT RULES WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED AS DIVISION II, AND WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

TIME STANDARDS: The following timeframes apply to general civil cases and must be adhered to unless you have requested and been granted an extension of time. General civil consists of all cases except: Small claims appeals, petitions, and unlawful detainers.

COMPLAINTS: Complaints must be served on all named defendants, and a CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE (SDSC CIV-345) filed within 60 days of filing. This is a mandatory document and may not be substituted by the filing of any other document.

DEFENDANT'S APPEARANCE: Defendant must generally appear within 30 days of service of the complaint. (Plaintiff may stipulate to no more than a 15 day extension which must be in writing and filed with the Court.)

DEFAULT: If the defendant has not generally appeared and no extension has been granted, the plaintiff must request default within 45 days of the filing of the Certificate of Service.

THE COURT ENCOURAGES YOU TO CONSIDER UTILIZING VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES TO LITIGATION, INCLUDING MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION, PRIOR TO THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. MEDIATION SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE UNDER THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAMS ACT AND OTHER PROVIDERS. SEE ADR INFORMATION PACKET AND STIPULATION.

YOU MAY ALSO BE ORDERED TO PARTICIPATE IN ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO CCP 1141.10 AT THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. THE FEE FOR THESE SERVICES WILL BE PAID BY THE COURT IF ALL PARTIES HAVE APPEARED IN THE CASE AND THE COURT ORDERS THE CASE TO ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO CCP 1141.10. THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE WILL BE CANCELLED IF YOU FILE FORM SDSC CIV-359 PRIOR TO THAT HEARING

MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney
 California State Bar No. 60402
 CHRISTOPHER S. MORRIS, Assistant City Attorney
 MARGARET G. JACOBO, Assistant City Attorney
 DIANE SILVA-MARTINEZ, Head Deputy City Attorney
 DAVID J. KARLIN, Head Deputy City Attorney

NO FEE GC § 6103

Office of the City Attorney
 Criminal Division
 1200 Third Avenue, Suite 700
 San Diego, California 92101
 (619) 533-5500; Fax (619) 533-5505

Attorneys for Plaintiff

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,)	Case No. 37-2008-00088176-CU-BT-CTL
Plaintiff,)	
v.)	COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTION, RESTITUTION, OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF, AND CIVIL PENALTIES
COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL)	
CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation;)	I/C Judge:
BANK OF AMERICA, a Delaware corporation;)	Dept.:
ANGELO MOZILO, an individual; DAVID)	Action Filed:
SAMBOL, an individual; STANFORD)	Trial Date: Not Set
KURLAND, an individual; CARLOS GARCIA,)	
an individual; DOES 1-200, and ROES 1-500,)	
inclusive,)	
Defendants.)	

Michael J. Aguirre, acting in his official capacity as City Attorney for the City of San Diego, brings this action in the name of the People of the State of California ("Plaintiff"). Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based on such information and belief, alleges the following:

I. NATURE AND SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. Defendant Countrywide Financial Corporation and its agents, officers, employees, and affiliated or associated parties engaged in a pattern of unlawful, fraudulent or unfair

1 predatory real estate lending practices causing victims of such behavior, in the City of San
2 Diego, to lose or be in jeopardy of losing their homes through foreclosure.

3 2. As demonstrated in Exhibit 1, attached hereto, foreclosures have occurred
4 throughout San Diego County. Particularly hard hit are neighborhoods located in the southern
5 and southeastern portions of the City of San Diego.

6 3. Defendants' unlawful, fraudulent or unfair "predatory" lending practices directed
7 against San Diego home purchasers and homeowners involved one of the following elements:

8 a. Making loans based predominantly on the foreclosure or liquidation value of a
9 borrower's collateral rather than on the borrower's ability to repay the mortgage according to its
10 terms;

11 b. Inducing the borrower to repeatedly refinance a loan in order to charge high
12 points and fees each time the loan is refinanced ("loan flipping"); or

13 c. Engaging in fraud or deception to conceal the true nature of the mortgage loan
14 obligation.

15 4. The goal of Countrywide's unlawful, fraudulent, or unfair "predatory" lending
16 practices was to increase the Company's share of the national mortgage market by mass
17 producing loans for sale on the secondary market. In this scheme, borrowers were nothing more
18 than the means for producing more loans. Countrywide originated loans with little or no regard
19 for the borrowers' financial ability to afford the loans or to sustain homeownership.

20 5. Defendants were also motivated to engage in the unlawful, fraudulent or unfair
21 business practices for personal, financial benefit. As a result of directing Countrywide to engage
22 in unlawful, fraudulent, and unfair business practices as alleged in this Complaint, the Individual
23 Defendants, named below, personally benefited in the total sum exceeding \$800 million.

24 6. This action is brought to enjoin Countrywide from initiating or advancing any
25 foreclosure on any residential mortgage involving properties which are owner occupied in the
26 City of San Diego when the residential mortgage contains the following characteristics:

27 a. The loan is an adjustable rate mortgage ("ARM") with an introductory rate period
28 of three years or less;

1 b. The loan has an introductory or "teaser" rate for the initial period that is at least 3
2 percent lower than the fully indexed rate;

3 c. The borrower has a debt-to-income ratio that would have exceeded 50 percent if
4 the lender's underwriters had measured the debt, not by the debt due under the teaser rate, but by
5 the debt due under the fully indexed rate; and

6 d. The loan-to-value ratio is 100 percent or the loan carries a substantial prepayment
7 penalty or a prepayment penalty that extends beyond the introductory period.

8 **II. DEFENDANTS AND VENUE**

9 7. Defendant Countrywide Financial Corporation ("Countrywide" or "CFC" or the
10 "Company") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware that
11 transacted business in the County of San Diego, State of California and elsewhere in the United
12 States and internationally. CFC carried out the unlawful, fraudulent, or unfair predatory lending
13 practices through several divisions and subsidiaries including, but not limited to, Countrywide
14 Home Loans, Inc. ("CHL"), a New York corporation; Full Spectrum Lending, Inc. ("Full
15 Spectrum"), either as a California corporation or as a division of CHL.

16 8. Defendant Bank of America Corporation ("BofA") is a corporation organized and
17 existing under the laws of the State of Delaware. At all relevant times, BofA has transacted and
18 continues to transact business in the City of San Diego. In January 2008, BofA announced that it
19 had entered into an agreement to acquire Countrywide in an all-stock deal. It is believed that
20 BofA's purchase of Countrywide was completed on July 1, 2008. BofA is named as a Defendant
21 solely due to its purchase of Countrywide.

22 9. Defendant Angelo R. Mozilo ("Mozilo") was a CFC director and has been since
23 1969. Defendant Mozilo is a co-founder of Countrywide and has been Chairman of the Board of
24 the CFC since March 1999 and Chief Executive Officer of the CFC since February 1998.
25 Defendant Mozilo was also President of the CFC from March 2000 through December 2003, and
26 served in other executive capacities since the Company's formation in March 1969. Defendant
27 Mozilo directed, authorized, and ratified the conduct of CFC as set forth herein. During the
28 relevant time period, Defendant Mozilo sold over 12.8 million shares of Countrywide stock for

1 proceeds in excess of \$474 million. Defendant Mozilo resides in the County of Ventura,
2 California.

3 10. Defendant David Sambol ("Sambol") is a CFC director and has been since
4 September 2007. Defendant Sambol joined CFC in 1985. Defendant Sambol served as
5 Executive Managing Director of Business Segment Operations, leading all revenue generating
6 functions of the Company, as well as the corporate operational and support units comprised of
7 Administration, Marketing and Corporate Communications and Enterprise Operations and
8 Technology. Defendant Sambol is currently President and Chief Operating Officer ("COO") for
9 CFC. Defendant Sambol also serves as Chairman and CEO of CHL, where he directed,
10 authorized and ratified the conduct of CHL. Sambol admittedly "leads all operations of the
11 Company" and has "oversight responsibility" for CHL, as well as CFC's bank, CFC's insurance
12 group, CFC's Capital Markets Division and CFC's Global Operations Division. During the
13 relevant time period, Defendant Sambol sold over 1.4 million shares of Countrywide stock for
14 proceeds in excess of \$54 million. Defendant Sambol resides in the County of Los Angeles,
15 California.

16 11. Defendant Stanford L. Kurland ("Kurland") resigned from the position of
17 President and Chief Operating Officer ("COO") of CFC in September 2006. Defendant Kurland
18 began his career with CFC in 1979, and served in a number of executive positions, including
19 President of CHL, Senior Managing Director of Finance, Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") and
20 Vice President-Controller. During the relevant time period, Defendant Kurland sold over 5.1
21 million shares of Countrywide stock for proceeds in excess of \$185 million. Defendant Kurland
22 resides in the County of Los Angeles, California.

23 12. Defendant Carlos M. Garcia ("Garcia") joined the CFC in 1984 and oversaw all
24 corporate operations, including the e-Business Division, Finance, Administration, Human
25 Resources, and Information Technology. Defendant Garcia has served as Chief Financial
26 Officer ("CFO") of CFC and as a member of the board of directors for CFC Capital Markets,
27 Inc., and as CEO of CFC Insurance Group, Inc. Defendant Garcia is currently Chairman of CFC
28 Bank, FSB. Defendant Garcia also serves as Executive Managing Director, Chief of Banking

1 and Insurance for CFC Financial Corporation and Chairman of Balboa Insurance Group, Inc.
2 Defendant Garcia further serves as a member of the CFC Committee. During the relevant time
3 period, Defendant Garcia sold over 1.2 million shares of Countrywide stock for proceeds in
4 excess of \$50 million. Defendant Garcia resides in the County of Los Angeles, California.

5 13. Defendants Mozilo, Sambol, Kurland and Garcia may also be referred to
6 collectively as the "Individual Defendants."

7 14. The Individual Defendants, by reason of their positions as directors and/or
8 officers and fiduciaries of Countrywide and because of their ability to control the business,
9 corporate and financial affairs of the Company, were to ensure that Countrywide was managed
10 and operated in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations.

11 15. The true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 200, who joined in the unlawful,
12 fraudulent, or unfair predatory lending practices as officers, agents, employees, associated
13 parties, or affiliates of the above-named Defendants, are currently unknown to the People, who,
14 therefore, sue such Defendants by their fictitious names. The People will seek leave to amend
15 this Complaint to allege the true names of DOES 1 through 200 when the same have been
16 ascertained. The People are informed and believe, and based on such information and belief,
17 alleges that each of the fictitiously named Defendants participated in some or all of the acts
18 alleged herein.

19 16. The true names of Defendants ROES 1 through 500, who otherwise assisted
20 above-named Defendants who either engaged in the unlawful, fraudulent, or unfair predatory
21 lending practices, or aided and abetted in the same by investing in the mortgage-backed
22 securities, are currently unknown to the People, who, therefore, sue such Defendants by their
23 fictitious names. ROES 1 through 500 may be discovered to be "securitizers" – investment
24 banking firms from Wall Street and elsewhere that actually provided the cash used to make
25 Countrywide's loans. The People will seek leave to amend this Complaint to allege the true
26 names of ROES 1 through 500 when the same have been ascertained. The People are informed
27 and believe, and based on such information and belief, alleges that each of the fictitiously named
28 Defendants participated in some or all of the acts alleged herein.

1 17. At all relevant times, each of the Defendants acted as the principal, agent, or
2 representative of each of the other Defendants, and in doing the acts herein alleged, each
3 Defendant was acting within the course and scope of the agency relationship with each of the
4 other Defendants, and with the permission and ratification of each of the other Defendants.

5 18. At all relevant times, Defendants have controlled, directed, formulated, known
6 and/or approved of the various acts and practices of each of the Defendants.

7 19. Whenever reference is made in this Complaint to any act of any corporate or other
8 business defendant, such allegation shall mean that the corporation or other business did the acts
9 alleged through its officers, directors; employees, agents and/or representatives while they were
10 acting within the actual or ostensible scope of their authority.

11 20. At all relevant times, each Defendant knew or realized that the other Defendants
12 were engaging in or planned to engage in the violations of law alleged in this Complaint.
13 Knowing or realizing that other Defendants were engaging in or planning to engage in unlawful
14 conduct, each Defendant nevertheless facilitated the commission of those unlawful acts. Each
15 Defendant intended to and did encourage, facilitate, or assist in the commission of the unlawful
16 acts, and thereby aided and abetted the other Defendants in the unlawful conduct.

17 21. At all relevant times, Defendants have engaged in a conspiracy, common
18 enterprise, and common course of conduct, the purpose of which is and was to engage in the
19 violations of law alleged in this Complaint. The conspiracy, common enterprise, and common
20 course of conduct continue to the present.

21 22. Whenever reference is made in this Complaint to any act of Defendants, such
22 allegations shall mean that each Defendant acted individually and jointly with the other
23 Defendants named in that cause of action.

24 23. At all times mentioned in this Complaint, Defendants transacted business within
25 and from the City of San Diego, State of California, and the violations of law described herein
26 were committed within and from the City of San Diego, State of California.

27 ///

28 ///

1 **III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

2 24. The factual allegations contained herein are based on the following: (a) an
3 investigation conducted by the San Diego City Attorney's Office; (b) the review of public
4 records in San Diego County; (c) allegations contained within the matter of the *People of the*
5 *State of California v. Countrywide Financial Corporation*, Case No. LC081846, filed in the
6 Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles; (d) allegations contained with
7 the matter of *In re Countrywide Financial Corp. Derivate Litigation*, Case No. 07-CV-06923-
8 MRP-(MANx), in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, that has
9 be found sufficient to state a securities violations claim (*see In re Countrywide Financial Corp.*
10 *Derivate Litigation*, 2008 WL 2064977 (C.D. Cal. May 14, 2008)); (e) allegations contained with
11 the matter of *Commonwealth v. Fremont Inv. & Loan*, 2008 WL 517279 (Mass.Super. Feb. 26,
12 2008); and (f) allegations contained with the matter of *M & T Mortgage Corp. v. Foy*, 858
13 N.Y.S.2d 567 (2008). As such, the allegations contained herein are based on information and
14 belief, and are likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further
15 investigation and discovery.

16 **A. Countrywide's Residential Mortgage Operations**

17 25. Countrywide was one of the largest residential mortgage lenders in the United
18 States, responsible for originating and/or servicing over 18% of residential mortgages nationally.

19 26. Countrywide managed its business through five divisions: (1) Mortgage Banking,
20 which originated, purchased, sold and serviced non-commercial mortgage loans nationwide; (2)
21 Banking, which was a federally registered banking institution that took deposits and invested in
22 mortgage loans and home equity lines of credit ("HELOCs"), principally those issued by the
23 Company's Mortgage Banking division but also through third party issued mortgages; (3)
24 Capital Markets, which operated an institutional broker-dealer specializing in underwriting and
25 trading mortgage-backed securities ("MBS"); (4) Insurance, which provided property, casualty,
26 life, and disability insurance as well as reinsurance coverage to primary mortgage insurers; and
27 (5) Global Operations, which licensed proprietary software to mortgage businesses abroad.
28

1 27. Countrywide typically originated residential loans in the Mortgage Banking
2 division, kept a portion of those loans on its balance sheet as investments, primarily in the
3 Banking Division, and securitized and sold off the remainder of the mortgages or mortgage
4 related rights and obligations to third parties, through the Capital Markets division.

5 28. Countrywide originated residential mortgage loans and HELOCs through both
6 wholesale and retail channels. In the wholesale channel, employees worked closely with a
7 nationwide network of mortgage brokers to originate loans. In the retail channel, employees in
8 Countrywide's Consumer Markets Division sold loans directly to consumers. Full Spectrum
9 employees also sold loans directly to consumers as part of Countrywide's retail channel.

10 29. Over the years, the residential mortgage banking business evolved from one in
11 which lenders originated mortgages for retention in their own portfolios to one in which lenders
12 originate loans for resale to the secondary mortgage market.

13 30. During the relevant time period, many of the residential mortgages originated
14 Countrywide were sold into the secondary mortgage market, primarily in the form of securities
15 and to a lesser extent in the form of whole loan sales.

16 31. Although the mortgages which it originated were generally sold into the
17 secondary mortgage market, Countrywide typically performed the ongoing servicing functions
18 related to the residential mortgage loans that it produced.

19 32. Mortgages are "securitized" when loans are pooled together and transferred to a
20 trust controlled by the securitizer, such as Countrywide. The trust then creates and sells securities
21 backed by the loans in the pool. Holders of the securities received the right to a portion of the
22 monthly payment stream from the pooled loans, although they were not typically entitled to the
23 entire payment stream. Rather, the holders received some portion of the monthly payments. The
24 securitizer, or the trust it controls, often retains an interest in any remaining payment streams not
25 sold to security holders. These securitizations could involve the pooling of hundreds or
26 thousands of loans, and the sale of many thousands of shares.

27 ///

28 ///

1 **B. Countrywide Shifts Its Strategy From**
2 **Traditional Loans To Risky Non-Traditional Loans**

3 33. Through 2003, Countrywide primarily made traditional first lien home loans to
4 highly creditworthy individuals. These “conforming” loans are safer from a credit perspective.
5 Conforming loans are also easily sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, government-sponsored
6 entities that provide liquidity to the market for home mortgages.

7 34. Beginning in 2003 and carrying into the relevant time period, Countrywide moved
8 to originating more non-conforming loans. This exposed Countrywide to more risky loans, with
9 higher default rates. Moreover, these loans could not be sold to government-sponsored entities
10 (like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac), but had to be sold to private institutional investors.

11 35. At the same time, Countrywide was also pursuing a dramatic shift in strategic
12 direction away from traditional fixed-rate home loans to borrowers with “prime” credit scores, in
13 favor of a wide range of non-traditional, high-risk home loans designed to allow borrowers from
14 all credit levels to borrow more money for home purchases than would have been available
15 under traditional fixed product lending guidelines.

16 36. Mortgage brokers and other employees were compensated based on the volume of
17 loans originated and received higher payments when selling these non-traditional loan products
18 than they would selling standard loans. Accordingly, Countrywide’s employees targeted more
19 and more borrowers who were stretching to afford the loans – many of whom had no realistic
20 ability to repay the loans.

21 37. Examples of these “non-traditional” loan products include:

22 a. Adjustable rate mortgages (“ARMs”), which typically provide for a low “teaser”
23 interest rate for a predetermined introductory time period, ranging between 2 to 10 years. The
24 majority of ARMs sold to subprime borrowers were called “2/28 loans,” meaning that the teaser
25 rate lasts for only two years before “resetting” to higher rates, which are typically tied to
26 specified benchmarks or other criteria, as dictated by the fine print in the loan documentation. As
27 a result, borrowers’ monthly obligations would often increase dramatically after the introductory
28 period.

1 b. Interest-only mortgages, which allow the borrower to pay only the interest
2 accruing on the loan on a monthly basis for a predetermined time period. Thus, the loan principal
3 balance remains constant. At the end of the initial time period, borrowers have to pay interest
4 plus principal, and the interest may adjust depending on whether the loan is a fixed rate or ARM.

5 c. Pay-Option ARMs, which give the borrower the "option" whether to pay down
6 loan principal, to make the monthly interest payment, or to make a "minimum" payment that is
7 less than the interest accruing that month. If a borrower makes only the "minimum" payment, the
8 difference between that amount and the monthly interest payment is added to the remaining loan
9 principal. Thus, while a standard mortgage loan amortizes as principal is paid down and an
10 "interest only" mortgage is non-amortizing, Pay-Option ARMs are subject to negative
11 amortization, *i.e.*, the principal balance increases when interest payments are "skipped."

12 d. Stated income loans, which are based on a borrower's representations about
13 ability to pay, with little or no documentation from the borrower to substantiate those
14 representations. In these loans, the lender typically agrees not to inquire behind the borrower's
15 represented income, leading many to call these products "liar loans."

16 e. Home equity lines of credit ("HELOCs"), which are second loans secured only by
17 the difference between the value of a home and the amount due on a first mortgage. Upon a
18 default and foreclosure, the HELOC lender receives proceeds from the sale of the underlying
19 home only after the first lien holder is paid in whole. HELOCs sit in the "first loss" position.
20 Therefore, even a 10-20% reduction in home prices can have a dramatic effect on the collateral
21 securing HELOCs – resulting in the entire amount of the HELOC becoming unsecured.

22 38. Beginning in 2003, Countrywide substantially increased its production of non-
23 traditional, high-risk mortgages – both in absolute dollar amounts and as a percentage of the
24 company's total mortgage origination. The table below sets forth the company's non-traditional
25 mortgage originations – loans which are particularly sensitive to a drop in housing prices and/or
26 an interest rate increase:

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Adjustable-Rate Loans as % of Total Loans Originated	14%	21%	52%	52%	45%
HELOCS as % of Total Loans Originated	4.6%	4.2%	8.5%	9.0%	10.2%
Non-Prime Loans as % of Total Loans Originated	3.7%	4.6%	10.9%	8.9%	8.7%

39. The following chart illustrates how Countrywide's origination of HELOCs, non-prime mortgages, and ARMs grew in absolute numbers and as a percentage of the company's total mortgage origination before and during the relevant time period.

Mortgage Loan Production Years Ended December 31,					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
(in millions)					
Total Mortgage Loans	\$251,901	\$434,864	\$363,364	\$499,301	\$468,172
HELOC	11,650	18,103	30,893	44,850	47,876
(% of total)	(4.6%)	(4.2%)	(8.5%)	(9.0%)	(10.2%)
Nonprime Mortgage	9,421	19,827	39,441	44,637	40,596
(% of total)	(3.7%)	(4.6%)	(10.9%)	(8.9%)	(8.7%)
Pay-option ARMs as a % of total	N/A	N/A	6%	19%	14%
Adjustable-Rate Loans as a % of total	14%	21%	52%	52%	45%

40. Countrywide increased its production of these loans by offering them to persons who could not or would not provide documentation of their income. In 2004, 78% of the Pay-Option ARMs originated by Countrywide were "low-doc" mortgages in which the borrower did not fully document income or assets. This number grew to 91% in 2006. According to the Company's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 9, 2007, by the end of 2006, 81% of the

1 Pay-Option ARMs held for investment by the Countrywide were loans with low or no stated
2 income documentation. Countrywide also increased its origination of Pay-Option ARMs by
3 allowing borrowers to obtain Pay-Option ARMs without making substantial down payments.

4 41. At the time the Countrywide was growing the amount of risky loans it originated,
5 it was increasing the amount of Pay-Option ARMs held by the Company for investment. Pay-
6 Option ARM loans represented 46% of the mortgage loans held for investment on December 31,
7 2006. As set forth below, the amount of Pay-Option ARMs held by Countrywide for investment
8 grew significantly during the Relevant Period (in \$ millions):

	2003	2004	2005	2006
PAY-OPTION ARMS HELD FOR INVESTMENT	N/A	4,698	26,101	32,732

12
13 **C. Countrywide Deviates Significantly From Its Underwriting**
14 **Standards In Order To Capture Greater Market Share**

15 42. As Countrywide shifted to selling riskier, non-traditional loan products, it also
16 transitioned into predatory lending practices. A substantial and material percentage of the
17 residential loans originated by Countrywide during the relevant period involved significant
18 variations from the Company's underwriting standards.

19 43. The active monitoring and control over Countrywide's underwriting and credit
20 risk assessment processes was particularly important with respect to the Company's strategic
21 shift favoring the origination of high-risk, non-traditional loans such as Pay-Option ARMs. In
22 theory, if borrowers are good credit risks and reasonably sophisticated, they can make their
23 mortgage payment options as needed to manage their cash flow needs over time. However, the
24 risk becomes very significant if Countrywide sold Pay-Option ARMs: (1) to riskier borrowers
25 (including those who would struggle even to make the minimum monthly interest payment); (2)
26 at greater than expected loan to value ("LTV") (i.e., the ratio of the loan amount to the appraised
27 home value); and/or (3) based on limited if any documentation of income and repayment ability.

1 Yet, Countrywide failed to adopt strong internal controls necessary to adequately manage the
2 risks associated with these products.

3 44. In carrying out its lending practices, Countrywide and its affiliated and
4 associated parties failed to comply with prudent lending standards as follows:

5 a. Loan decisions were not based upon all relevant factors including the capacity of
6 the borrower to adequately service the debt. For example, borrowers were entering into Pay-
7 Option ARMs were very likely to experience "payment shock" when the loans reset. Under these
8 circumstances, prudent qualifying standards would recognize the potential effect of payment
9 shock in evaluating a borrower's ability to service debt;

10 b. A borrower's repayment capacity was not evaluated in terms of the borrower's
11 ability to repay the debt by its final maturity at the fully indexed rate, assuming a fully
12 amortizing repayment schedule;

13 c. Borrowers were not qualified based upon the quantification of the borrower's
14 repayment capacity by a debt-to-income (DTI) ratio, which should have included an assessment
15 of a borrower's total monthly housing-related payments (e.g., principal, interest, taxes, and
16 insurance, or what is commonly known as PITI) as a percentage of gross monthly income. This
17 was not done even when there was additional risk-layering such as reduced documentation, or
18 simultaneous second lien mortgages.

19 45. Even when these risk-layering features were present, there was an absence of
20 mitigation factors to support Countrywide's underwriting decisions. Thus, the borrowers'
21 repayment capacity was not verified, the borrowers' income (source and amount) was not
22 checked, and the borrower's assets and liabilities were not confirmed.

23 46. Countrywide also regularly approved "stated income" or no-documentation loans
24 even though the same applicant had been refused a loan under the Company's full-
25 documentation loan program. In such instances, the Company's loan officers would "assist" the
26 applicant in switching to a no-document loan.

27 47. Countrywide operated a computer system that routed highly risky loans out of
28 the normal loan approval process and to a central underwriting group for evaluation. The system

1 was called the Exception Processing System. The Exception Processing System identified loans
2 that violated the Company's underwriting requirements. For example, the system flagged loans
3 in which the loan-to-value ratio was too high when compared with the borrower's FICO score.
4 Flagged loan applications were then routed to the company's "Central Underwriting" group
5 located in Plano, Texas (headquarters of the Retail Lending group).

6 48. There, loan applications identified by the Exception Processing System as
7 violating the Company's underwriting standards were not rejected. Rather, the applications were
8 evaluated on whether Countrywide should require a higher price (i.e., "up front points") or a
9 higher interest rate in light of the violation at issue.

10 49. Furthermore, the Individual Defendants knew Countrywide was extending loans
11 that did not comply with the Company's underwriting policies and procedures. Countrywide's
12 approval of loans that it knew to be high risk and likely to end up in default demonstrated an
13 utter disregard for the well-being of the borrower.

14 50. These practices also clearly demonstrated that almost anyone could get a loan,
15 even if they had very little to no chance of paying it back.

16 51. Countrywide's strategic shift towards the relaxation of its underwriting and
17 origination procedures was brought about to facilitate an increase in the Company's market share
18 of the residential mortgage business. The Company pushed one goal above all others –
19 originating loans and selling them to the secondary markets as fast as possible.

20 **D. Countrywide Engages in Deceptive, Predatory**
21 **Practices To The Detriment Of Borrowers**

22 52. Countrywide also utilized deceptive lending practices to extend credit to
23 individuals who did not understand the terms and dangers of the costly loans they could not
24 afford. Countrywide's agents, associated parties, and affiliates used predatory lending practices
25 in which borrowers were convinced to agree to unfair and abusive loan terms including interest
26 rates and/or fees that were unreasonably high.

27 53. Countrywide's deceptive lending practices included (a) advertising that the
28 Company, as the nation's largest lender, could be trusted by consumers; (b) encouraging

1 borrowers to refinance or obtain purchase money financing with complicated mortgage
2 instruments like hybrid ARMs or Pay-Option ARMs that consumers did not understand; (c)
3 marketing these complex loan products by emphasizing the very low initial "teaser" or "fixed"
4 rates; (d) representing to borrowers that they could refinance prior to scheduled rate increases
5 without disclosing the dangers of negative amortization or pre-payment penalties; and (e)
6 routinely soliciting borrowers to refinance.

7 54. Defendants knew, or should have known, that Countrywide was required to
8 operate within specific statutory and regulatory parameters limiting the interest rate and other
9 fees that could lawfully be charged to borrowers as well as the types of selling practices that the
10 Company could utilize.

11 55. Defendants knew that predatory lending practices were a significant problem in
12 the industry, requiring they monitor the Company's lending practices closely.

13 56. Instead of closely monitoring the Company's lending practices, Defendants
14 created and adopted an incentive compensation system that induced brokers and sales
15 representatives to engage in predatory practices. For example, borrowers were routinely moved
16 into the subprime category even if their financial position dictated that they belonged higher up
17 on the loan spectrum. This occurred because the Company's brokers and sales representatives
18 earned a greater commission by placing a borrower in a sub-prime loan. Brokers received
19 commissions of 0.50% of the loan's value versus 0.20% on loans one step up the quality ladder,
20 known as Alternate-A loans.

21 57. Countrywide's sale of ARMs provides another example of predatory lending
22 practices exhibited by the Company. As described, these types of mortgages offered low initial
23 payments based on a fixed introductory or "teaser" rate that expires after a short period, and then
24 adjusts to a variable rate plus a margin for the remaining term of the loan. When the rate resets,
25 borrowers experience "payment shock" and are unable to afford the higher payments. These
26 types of loans were typically offered to subprime borrowers and issued with limited or no
27 document basis. Additionally, ARMs typically carry substantial pre-payment penalties. Yet, the
28

1 borrowers of these loans are likely to have to resort to frequently refinancing in order to maintain
2 an affordable monthly payment.

3 58. Countrywide deceptively marketed Pay-Option ARMs by aggressively
4 promoting the teaser rate. Advertisement did not effectively distinguish between the "payment
5 rate" and the interest rate on the loans, and any warnings about potential negative amortization.

6 59. Borrowers, enticed by the low teaser rate, did not fully understand the fine print
7 in the loan documents or the financial implications of Countrywide's Pay-Option ARMs.

8 60. It is clear that borrowers did not understand the risks and consequences of
9 obtaining this type of ARM loan. Borrowers who obtained these loans faced unaffordable
10 monthly payments after the initial rate adjustment, difficulty in paying real estate taxes and
11 insurance that were not escrowed, or expensive refinancing fees, any of which could cause
12 borrowers to default and potentially lose their homes.

13 61. These consumers were not protected from unfair, deceptive, and other predatory
14 lending practices. Countrywide failed to provide clear and balanced information about the risks
15 and features of these loans to the detriment of its borrowers.

16 62. Compounding the predatory nature of Countrywide's lending practices,
17 Countrywide aggressively marketed refinance loans to, among others, Countrywide's customers.
18 Countrywide created a perpetual market for its refinance loans by selling Pay-Option and hybrid
19 ARMs that borrowers would have to refinance in order to avoid payment shock. Countrywide
20 knew that borrowers who could not afford the inevitable payment increase on such loans and
21 who were unable to refinance would be at great risk of losing their homes.

22 63. Refinancing also served as a means to overcome a borrower's apprehension
23 about purchasing a Pay-Option or hybrid ARM. Countrywide often overcame a borrower's
24 concerns by promising the borrower that they would be able to refinance into a loan with more
25 favorable terms before the rate reset and the monthly payments increased.

26 64. Countrywide failed to inform borrowers with interest-only or negative amortizing
27 loans that refinancing was highly unlikely unless the value of their home increased. Further,
28 Countrywide did not adequately inform borrowers about pre-payment penalties that would

1 essentially prevent many borrowers from refinancing prior to rates resetting and the
2 accompanying payment explosion.

3 65. As a direct consequence of Countrywide's unfair, unlawful and fraudulent
4 practices, borrowers were unable to afford the monthly payments after the initial rate adjustment
5 due to payment shock. These borrowers also experienced difficulty in paying real estate taxes
6 and insurance that were not escrowed. They incurred expensive refinancing fees, frequently due
7 to closing costs and prepayment penalties. Ultimately, most borrowers ended up losing their
8 homes.

9 66. Countrywide, on the other hand, continued its deceptive marketing practices for
10 it cared only about doing whatever it took to increase the numbers of loans.

11 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

12 **VIOLATIONS OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE SECTION 17200**

13 **(UNFAIR COMPETITION)**

14 67. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 through 66 of the Complaint and incorporates
15 same by this reference as though fully set forth herein.

16 68. Beginning on an exact date unknown to Plaintiff, but within four years prior to
17 the filing of this Complaint, and continuing to the present, Defendants engaged in unfair
18 competition in violation of Business and Professions Code 17200, including, but not limited to,
19 one or more unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business acts or practices:

20 a. By significantly deviating from traditional underwriting standards when
21 originating non-traditional loan products such as Pay-Option ARMs and hybrid ARMs;

22 b. By ignoring internal controls that suggested certain loan applications be denied
23 and funding those loan applications merely to increase market share;

24 c. By creating an incentive based compensation system that induced brokers and
25 sales associates to engage in predatory practices; and

26 d. By utilizing deceptive lending practices including, but not limited to, (i)
27 aggressively promoting introductory or teaser rates; (ii) by failing to provide clear and balanced
28 information concerning the risks and features of its non-traditional loans; and (iii) by creating a

1 perpetual refinancing market for itself when placing borrowers in loans they had no ability to
2 repay.

3 **PRAYER**

4 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants, DOES 1 through 200,
5 and ROES 1 through 500, and each of them, on all causes of action as follows:

6 1. For judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendants;

7 2. For a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants, their successors, assigns,
8 agents, representatives, employees and all persons who act in concert with them from
9 initiating or advancing any foreclosure on any residential mortgage involving properties which
10 are owner occupied and where the following four factors exist:

11 a. The loan is an ARM with an introductory period of three years or less;

12 b. The loan has an introductory or "teaser" rate for the initial period that is at least 3
13 percent lower than the fully indexed rate;

14 c. The borrower has a debt-to-income ratio that would have exceeded 50% if the
15 lender's underwriters had measured the debt, not by the debt due under the teaser rate, but by the
16 debt due under the fully indexed rate; and

17 d. The loan-to-value ratio is 100% or the loan carries a substantial prepayment
18 penalty or a prepayment penalty that extends beyond the introductory period.

19 3. For an order that Defendants can only reinstitute foreclosure proceedings on the
20 above properties after showing proof to the City of San Diego that Defendants have met with the
21 borrower and taken reasonable steps in an attempt to resolve their differences and avoid
22 foreclosure.

23 4. For a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants, their successors, assigns,
24 agents, representatives, employees and all persons who act in concert with them from engaging
25 in unfair competition as defined in Business and Professions Code section 17200, including, but
26 not limited to, the acts or practices alleged in this Complaint.

27 5. For the imposition of a civil penalty of \$2,500 pursuant to Business and
28 Professions Code section 17536 against each Defendant for each violation of Business and

1 Professions Code section 17500 as alleged in this Complaint. Plaintiff requests that civil penalty
2 of no less than \$100,000 be imposed against each Defendant.

3 6. For costs of suit incurred herein; and

4 7. For such further and other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

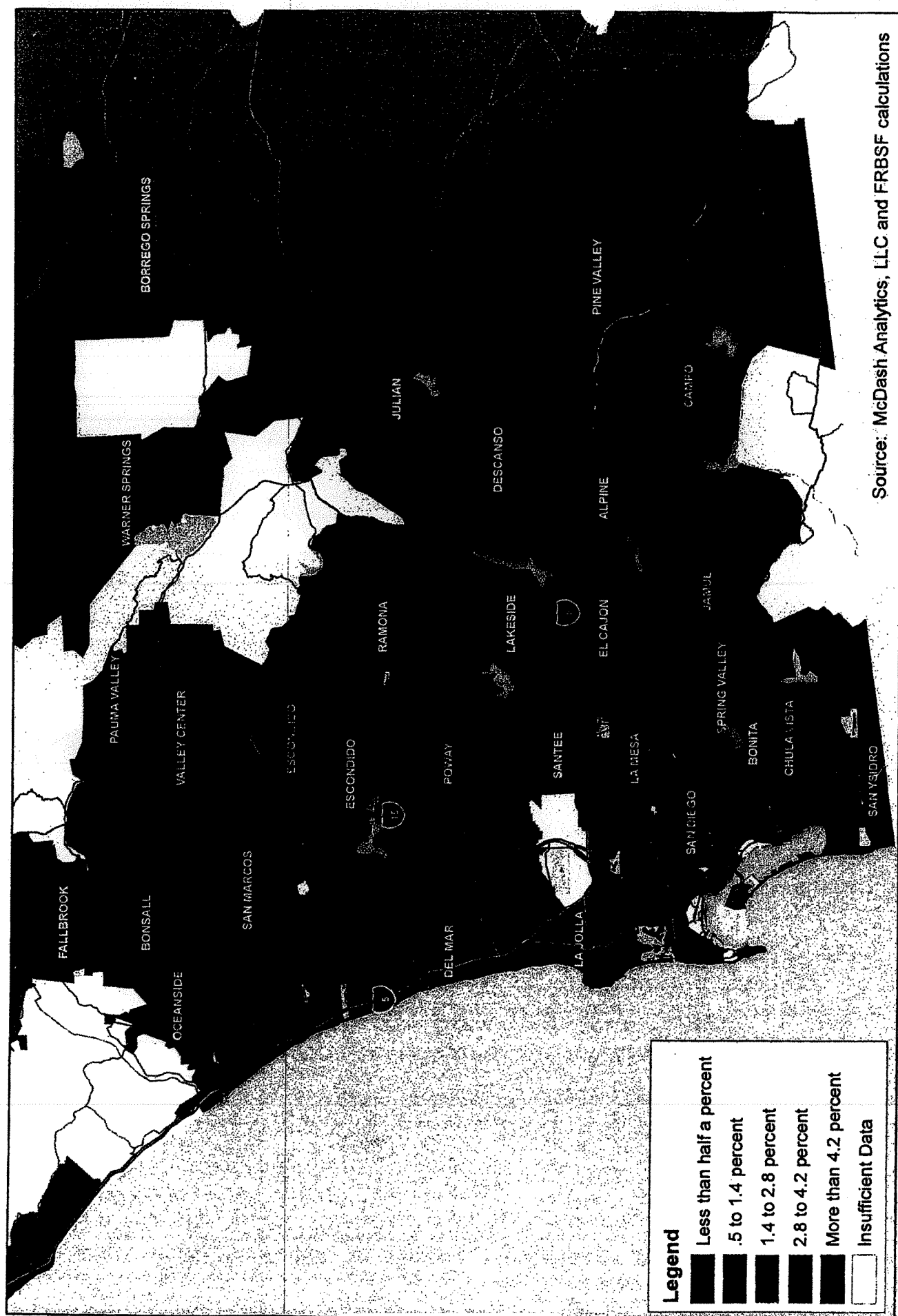
5
6 Dated: 29 July 2008


MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

Attorney for Plaintiff

Percent of Mortgage Loans in Foreclosure or REO (by zip code)

April 2008



Ex. A
0041

1 PAUL G. McNAMARA (S.B. #106080)
pmcnamara@omm.com
2 THOMAS M. RIORDAN (S.B. #176364)
triordan@omm.com
3 DAVID I. HURWITZ (S.B. #174632)
dhurwitz@omm.com
4 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP
400 South Hope Street
5 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2899
Telephone: (213) 430-6000
6 Facsimile: (213) 430-6407

7 Attorneys for Defendants
COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
8 CORPORATION; BANK OF AMERICA
CORPORATION; ANGELO MOZILO;
9 DAVID SAMBOL; STANFORD KURLAND;
and CARLOS GARCIA

10
11
12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
13 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
14

15 PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
16 CALIFORNIA,

17 Plaintiff,

18 v.

19 COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
CORPORATION, a Delaware
20 corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, a
Delaware corporation; ANGELO
21 MOZILO, an individual; DAVID
SAMBOL, an individual; STANFORD
22 KURLAND, an individual; CARLOS
GARCIA, an individual; DOES 1-200,
and ROES 1-500, inclusive,

23 Defendants.
24
25
26
27
28

Case No. 08-CV-1348-JLS-BLM

PROOF OF SERVICE

PROOF OF SERVICE

PROOF OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL AND E-MAIL DELIVERY

I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action. I am a member of the bar of this Court. I am a resident of or employed in the county where the service described below occurred. My business address is 400 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, California 90071-2899. On August 14, 2008, I served the following:

AMENDED NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1334, 1441(b), 1446, & 1452 (FEDERAL-QUESTION, FEDERAL OFFICER, AND BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION)

by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States mail at Los Angeles, California addressed as set forth below. I am readily familiar with the firm's practice of collecting and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid in the ordinary course of business.

Attorneys for the People of the State of California
 Michael J. Aguirre, City Attorney
 Christopher S. Morris, Assistant City Attorney
 Margaret G. Jacobo, Assistant City Attorney
 Diane Silva-Martinez, Head Deputy City Attorney
 David J. Karlin, Head Deputy City Attorney
 Office of the City Attorney
 Criminal Division
 1200 Third Avenue, Suite 700
 San Diego, CA 92101
 Tel.: (619) 533-5500
 Fax: (619) 533-5505

And that the CM/ECF, USSD Live System Document Filing System will e-mail notification of such e-filing to the following counsel in this matter who are registered on the CM/ECF:

1 David James Karlin, Head Deputy City Attorney
2 Office of the City Attorney
3 Criminal Division
4 dkarlin@sandiego.gov; mtroxell@sandiego.gov

5 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California
6 that the above is true and correct. Executed on August 14, 2008, at Los Angeles,
7 California.

8 

9 Christa Demeke

10 LA2:867453.2